

**IN THE ABSTRACT**

Please replace the abstract with the following amended abstract:

A dry mate connector has first and second connector modules, and a coupling member or slidable retention sleeve mounted on the first module. Resilient latch formations are provided for releasably securing the modules together in a mated position. The modules each have at least one contact for communication with the contact of the other module within a closed, locked and sealed contact chamber formed by the coupling member and modules in the mated position. Mating, locking and sealing are achieved by movement of the parts in a single, mating direction, and the modules are separated by motion in a single direction opposite to the mating direction, using the same two grip surfaces for both mating and unmating. A collapsible fluid-filled hose with bellows portions may extend between a first connector module and a second connector module in an optical cable arrangement using the dry mate connector.